

PATENT SPECIFICATION

599452



Application Date: Sept. 3, 1946.

No. 21433/45.

Complete Specification Accepted: March 12, 1948.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in and relating to Powder Compacts

I, MAURICE LOCKER, a British Subject, of 54, Cannon Street, Manchester, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

According to this invention, a powder compact is made as a plastic moulding, in a flat form and of circular or substantially circular shape with a single compartment of the same shape, with a hinged lid, the lid and container being formed with one or more sets of close-fitting complemental grooves and ribs or projections all around, so that there is no straight-through passage between them when closed, and such grooves, ribs and projections pass in front of the hinge so as not to be interrupted thereby, and so that when the lid is closed the hinge is completely shut off from the interior of the compact. Preferably, the improved compact is made of a transparent or translucent material.

The ribs, projections and grooves may be of tapered cross-section, so as to ensure a good contact as they are brought together. A strip of resilient material such as felt or rubber may be provided between the base of a groove and the top of a rib. Again, the top of a rib may itself have a narrow groove, into which fits a corresponding rib standing up from the base of a larger groove.

The inner face of the lid is formed with a recess which may be slightly undercut, in which is secured a mirror, and the lid has an engraved or embossed outer surface, so that when a layer of ornamental material such as a coloured fabric or paper is placed behind the mirror it throws up the decoration in the surface of the lid. Alternatively there may be a double-sided mirror, or two back-to-back mirrors, so as to throw up or accentuate any embossed or like pattern on the lid.

According to the invention also, the lid is formed with an integral shroud or cowl to fit closely over the hinge, with its lower edge forming a "stop" to engage a complemental edge on the body of the compact and limit the opening movement of the lid to a position where the mirror

on the inside of the lid is conveniently placed for use.

An example of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a plan with one half the lid removed;

Fig. 2 is a diametrical cross-section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a side view of the compact with the lid fully open.

As shown, the powder compact, which is made of a transparent plastic-moulded material, is generally circular in shape and is relatively flat, the lid 1 and box 2 being shallow, of equal depth and approximately of equal cross-sectional form. These parts 1, 2 are connected together by a hinge 3, the axis of which is approximately tangential to the largest diameter of the parts, and at a diametrically opposite point there is "snap" connection consisting of a projecting part 4 on the lid, designed to meet and snap past a projecting part 5 on the box. Adjacent to this locking means, the lid and box have small projecting ears 6 on the outer perimeter, to act as finger pieces for the opening of the compact.

Each part 1, 2 has a single shallow well or recess at its centre with an upstanding wall or ridge 7 around it, between which wall and the outer edge, there is a flat portion, whilst the box part has a further upstanding rib 8 near the edge, the ribs 7 and 8 on the box forming between them a close-fitting groove into which the rib 7 on the lid fits when the compact is closed. Although the grooves 7 and 8 are shown as parallel-sided elements they may be of a slightly tapered cross-section so as to nest closely together. The ribs 7 and 8 pass immediately in front of the hinge, and behind the snap fastener, although they could pass in front of the fastening if desired. There may be additional concentric ribs 7 and 8 if desired, to give a double or triple seal.

The recess or well of the box part is adapted to receive loosely a gauze carrier for the powder, with lifting tab to assist in its removal; whilst fixedly held in the recess or well of the lid is a mirror 9,

behind which is a disc 10 of coloured embossed material visible from the outside of the lid. The mirror may be held by a portion of the surrounding wall of the recess being softened and rolled over its edge.

The hinge 3 is formed by interfitting parts of lugs 11 on the lid and box, with a pivot pin passing through them. The lug 11 on the lid is formed at its outer end as a cowl to lie over the hinge parts, and present a continuous outer surface. The edge of this cowl meets a similar edge on the box when the lid is fully open (see Fig. 3) and acts as a stop to limit the opening movement of the lid.

A compact as above described has a very attractive appearance by reason of its constructional form, and the leakage of powder is very greatly reduced if not eliminated altogether.

A powder compact is known having a plurality of side-by-side receptacles, in which each receptacle, or the receptacles as a whole, was or were surrounded by co-acting walls, ribs, projections or the like and grooves, recesses or the like to prevent leakage.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A powder compact made as a plastic moulding, in a flat form, of circular or substantially circular shape, with a single compartment of the same shape, with a hinged lid, the lid and container being formed with one or more sets of close-fitting complemental grooves and ribs or projections all around, so that there is no straight-through passage between them when closed, such grooves, ribs and pro-

jections passing in front of the hinge, so as not to be interrupted thereby, and so that when the lid is closed the hinge is completely shut off from the interior of the compact, the inner face of the lid being formed with a recess in which is secured a mirror, and the lid having an engraved or embossed surface, the lid also being formed with an integral shroud or cowl to fit closely over the hinge, with its lower edge forming a "stop" to engage a complemental edge on the body of the compact and limit the opening movement of the lid to a position where the mirror on the inside of the lid is conveniently placed for use.

2. A powder compact according to claim 1, made of a transparent or translucent material.

3. A powder compact according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the ribs or projections and grooves are of tapered cross-section, so as to ensure a good contact as they are brought together.

4. A powder compact according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein a strip of resilient material such as felt or rubber is provided between the base of a groove and the top of a rib.

5. A powder compact according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the top of a rib itself has a narrow groove, into which fits a corresponding rib standing up from the base of a larger groove.

6. A powder compact according to claim 1, and constructed substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

Dated this 21st day of August, 1946.

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Leamington Spa: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office, by the Courier Press.—1946.
Published at The Patent Office, 25, Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2, from which
copies, price 1s. 0d. each (inland) 1s. 1d. (abroad) may be obtained.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]



